



CONNECTICUT PROBATE ASSEMBLY

February 29, 2016

Sen. Cassano, Rep. Jutila, Sen. McLachlan, Rep. Smith and members of the Government Administration and Elections Committee:

I am Judge Sydney Elkin, West Hartford Probate Court Judge and President - Judge of the Probate Assembly. I am submitting this testimony in regards to **Raised 5389, An Act Concerning Public Financing for Judge of Probate Candidates.**

The bill authorizes the State Election Enforcement Commission to study if probate judge campaigns should be publicly financed through the Citizen's Election Program. On behalf of the Probate Assembly, we believe that probate judges, and other professionals associated with the Probate Courts, should be members of any panel that studies probate judge elections. If the committee chooses to advance this bill, the outcome will be greatly improved with participation by the Probate Assembly.

Thank you very much for your consideration.